



General Assembly

***Substitute House Joint
Resolution No. 18***

February Session, 2008

* HJ00018TRA 030508 *

***RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO INTERCEDE WITH
THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT
THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY OF CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS.***

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration has attempted to
2 design an Integrated Airspace Alternative Plan to reduce airspace
3 congestion at New York City airports; and

4 WHEREAS, such a plan would change flight patterns and
5 potentially increase flights over southwestern Connecticut by one
6 hundred fifty airplanes per day, some hovering as low as three
7 thousand feet over residential neighborhoods; and

8 WHEREAS, Connecticut has one of the highest rates of childhood
9 asthma and some of the poorest air-quality in the nation and is seeking
10 ways to reduce this alarming statistic even though much of our air
11 pollution is generated by prevailing winds from the west; and

12 WHEREAS, there are imminent environmental and public safety
13 concerns associated with the Federal Aviation Administration's plan,
14 including noise and air pollution which could increase three-fold,
15 affecting our most vulnerable citizens such as our children, seniors and
16 those with weakened immune systems; and

17 WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration prepared the
18 Integrated Airspace Alternative Plan without adequate public input
19 and did not hold additional public hearings requested by state and
20 federal legislators representing affected areas; and

21 WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration has not considered
22 alternative routes over less populated areas and has not set restrictions
23 on minimum altitude heights for aircraft traveling in the new routes;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, a 2005 Government Accountability Office report
26 concluded that the plan would only reduce delays in New York's
27 airports by one to seven per cent.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut
29 General Assembly calls upon the Federal Aviation Administration to
30 reconsider the Integrated Airspace Alternative Plan and to hold
31 additional public hearings seeking the input of concerned citizens and
32 elected officials; and

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerks of the House of
34 Representatives and the Senate cause a copy of this resolution to be
35 sent to the administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and
36 each member of the Connecticut congressional delegation.

TRA *Joint Favorable Subst.*